



Testimony, Public Safety and Security Committee, February 17, 2015

My name is Brian Anderson. I am a Legislative Representative for Council 4 AFSCME, a union of 32,000 public and private employees. Among these employees are the bulk of the state's correction employees.

We support:

1. Proposed H.B. No. 5379 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR ASSAULT OF AN OFF-DUTY POLICE OFFICER. This bill imposes a penalty for assaulting an off-duty police officer. We ask that corrections officers be included.
2. S.B. No. 902 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS WITH POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER. Again, we ask that corrections employees be included.

Adding corrections workers to these bills would seem to make state policy more consistent. With amendment, these bills will recognize the inherent and verifiable dangers in police, fire and corrections work.

Council 4 Council 4 would be happy to provide the committee with any additional information. Thank you for your consideration.